REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending and under consideration.

Using independent claim 1 as an example, this claim recites converting the intermediate data into printing data; determining whether an error has occurred while the intermediate data is converted into the printing data; and in response to determining that an error has occurred, converting the intermediate data into image type data and converting the image type data into the printing data.

It is noted that the determined error is while the intermediate data is converted into printing data. The Examiner's attention is drawn to FIG. 1, operations 12 and 14, of the present application.

In contrast, Sugahara teaches the determining of the error occurs *before* the data is converted from intermediate data to PDL data. When print contents include an error, the intermediate data editor 28 edits the data in the spooler 27. Sugahara, para. 115 and FIG. 21. However, the data in the spooler 27 is intermediate data that has not yet been converted to PDL data.

In more detail, document data is generated by the application 12, and converted into intermediate data, which is then converted into PDL data. Sugahara, paras. 51-52 and 56. Spooler 27 spools intermediate data which has *not yet been converted into print data*, and the data editor 28 edits this data. Sugahara, para. 45. The operation of editor 28 is described at paragraphs 65-69 of the reference, which further specify that the intermediate data is edited (paragraph 68).

It is also noted that data may be inverse converted from PDL data to intermediate data according to the embodiment of FIG. 21. However, this inverse conversion is triggered when the client 10b receives PDL2 data (as opposed to receiving the document data, as in client 10a). Sugahara, paras. 103 and 106-109. The PDL2 data is replaced with intermediate data 27 in the spooler, at which point the intermediate data editor may address any errors. Sugahara, para. 112.

However, there is no determining whether an error has occurred while the intermediate data is converted into the printing data, as claimed. This is because the printing data is converted to intermediate data. Furthermore, Sugahara does not appear to teach "in response to determining that an error has occurred, converting the intermediate data into image type data," as claimed.

The remaining references do not overcome these deficiencies.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.
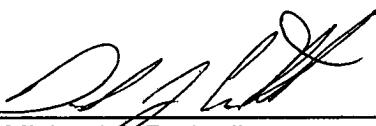
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: _Jan. 19, 2010_   By: _____   Reg. No. 52,790
                                   Michael J. Badagliacca
                                   Registration No. 39,099

1201 New York Avenue, N.W., 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501